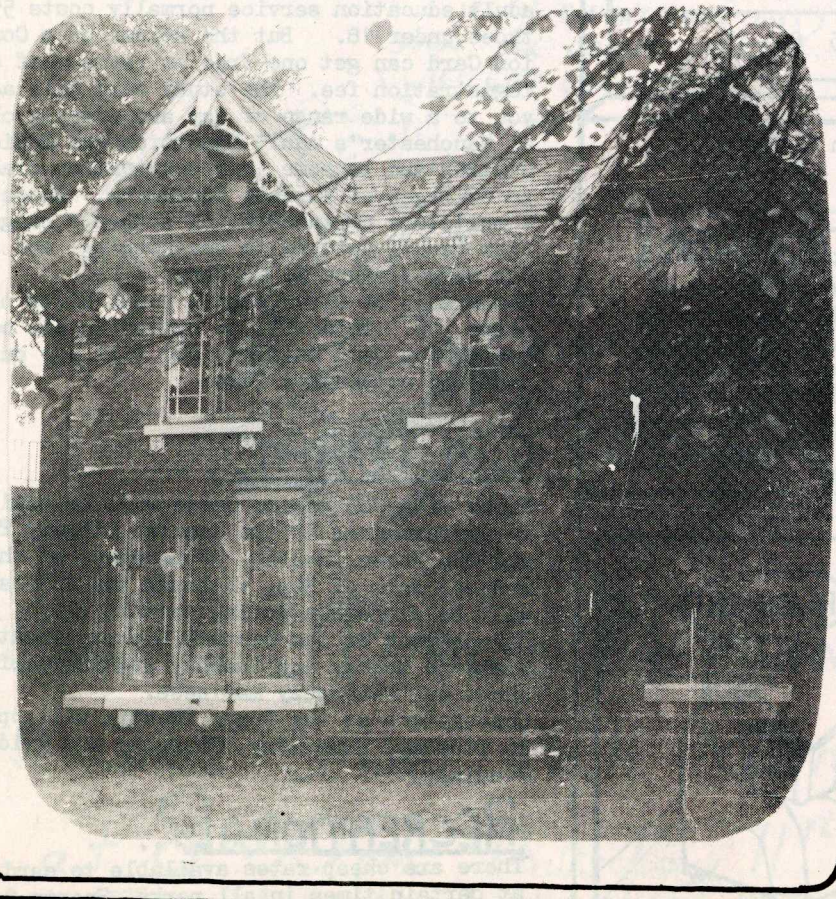
LONGSIGHT NEWS.

No 12 (5p) NOV. 1976

ANSON FOOTBALL CLUB. (SEE PAGE 3)



NEW NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE ? (SEE PAGE 6)

CONTENTS

INSIDE

Page 2... ADVICE CENTRE NEWS.
CONCESSION CARDS.

Page 3... ANSON FOOTBALL CLUB AND MATCH REVIEW.

Page 4... NEW HOUSING ACTION AREA; TALLIS ST.
DISTRICT CENTRE NEWS.
LONGSIGHT PUBLIC HALL.

Page 5... THE PLAYHOUSE.
SHORTSIGHT NEWS.

Page 6... LONGSIGHT ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND NEWS.
NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE.
LONGSIGHT LIBRARY.

Page 7... WOMENS RIGHTS.
FAMILY CENTRE.

Page 8... LETTERS.

Page 9... POETRY
LONGSIGHT DIRECTORY

Page 10 & Page 11 LOCAL HISTORY

Page 12... ADS, WHATS ON, ETC.

AND LOTS MORE.....

Manchester Periodicals

ADVICE CENTRE

We were very angry to learn that some of the Rate Rebate and Rent Allowance forms which we helped fill in, had been lost by the Town Hall even after the people applying had received acknowledgement slips.
People who have not yet received their rebates are getting very short shrift if they phone up the Town Hall to enquire. So if you are worried that your form may have been lost, please contact Hamilton Road Advice Office or the Welfare Rights Officer at Levenshulme Town Hall.
By the way only 15% of people entitled to these rebates are claiming them so drop in for a form if you think you might be entitled. If your income before stoppages is lower than the following table you should apply:-

TABLE

Your Rent	Single Person	Couple	Family of one child	Family of two children
£2	£26.95	£35.35	£39.95	£44.55
£3	£31.55	£39.95	£44.55	£49.15
£4	£35.05	£43.45	£48.05	£52.65
£5	£38.55	£46.95	£51.55	£56.15
£6	£42.05	£50.45	£55.05	£59.65
£7	£45.55	£53.95	£58.55	£63.15

If you have more children then higher limits apply.

DROPPING OFF THE COMPUTER!

We also discovered that some Rent Allowances that are already coming through, are dropping off the computer when they should be renewed. So if you suddenly find your Rent Allowance has stopped arriving, it has probably dropped off the computer. Let us know if this happens to you and we'll see if we can do anything.

UNDER 18? UNEMPLOYED?

Then you are entitled to use many of the City Council's educational, recreational and Cultural services at greatly reduced rates.
The City Council has decided to offer special financial concessions to anyone living in Manchester who is under the age of 18 and is registered as unemployed with a careers Office, Employment Office or a Job Centre.

Concession card...

To take advantage of this offer you must have a concession card. To obtain one, take the UB 40 form issued to you by the Unemployment Benefit Office to any one of the five City Careers Offices listed below. If you are not claiming unemployment benefit or Social Security, you can instead make a declaration of unemployment at the Careers Office, 1st Floor, Education Offices, Crown Square, Deansgate, Manchester 3. This concession Card will be your passport to a wide range of educational, cultural and recreational opportunities. These are:-

EDUCATIONAL...

Educational. A study card for the City's adult education service normally costs 55p for those under 18. But the holder of a Concession Card can get one free on payment of a 5p registration fee. The study card will admit you to a wide range of day and evening classes at Manchester's Adult Education and Music Centres and to some non-examination classes in Colleges of Further Education. These cover a multitude of interesting subjects ranging from Beauty Culture to Bee-keeping and from Car maintainence to Cookery.
Membership of City Council youth clubs normally costs 50p. This will be waived in the case of Concession Card holders, who will pay only the usual 5p attendance fee.

CULTURAL...

Those with Concession Cards will be admitted to performances at the Central Library Theatre and the Forum Theatre, Wythenshaw, at the reduced rate of 30p, although the concession will be withdrawn during certain plays.
Concessions at the Central Library Theatre will apply to Monday and Tuesday evening performances and Wednesday matinees.
Concessions at the Forum Theatre will operate on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings..

RECREATIONAL...

There are cheap rates available to card holders at certain times in all parks, Sports Centres and Baths.

36023072/AG/Manchester-Periodicals A-Z/A

Monday 22nd Nov. in the Theatre.	Your chance to see "Due to a Lack of Interest Tomorrow has been cancelled" and "Playing the Environmental Game". Followed by discussion.
Wednesday 24 Nov. at 7.30 p.m. in Lecture Theatre C77.	Discussion "TRANSPORT AND SOCIAL NEEDS". Share your viewpoint with: County Councillor George Mann (G.M.C. Transportation Committee). Mr. Ken Child (Greater Manchester Transport Action Group) Mr. Charles Blackley (N.U.R.) Chairman: Mr. Harry Johnson.
Friday 26th Nov. at 7.30 p.m. in the Theatre.	NORTH-WEST SPANNER who will present two short plays. "SAFETY FIRST OR LAST" "DIG FOR VICTORY" Admission 25p.
Saturday 27 Nov. at 2.00 p.m.	CONFERENCE "THE RIGHT TO SOCIALLY USEFUL WORK"

On Social Security or Dole?

why not join the

Longsight Claimants Union

organize to get a fair deal

Come to a Public Meeting at St. John's School Hall, Mitre Rd.

at 8.00 pm. Thursday 11th November

For details contact 225-5111 LAW CENTRE

LONGSIGHT NEWS

STOP PRESS

(1) CUTS SHOW

What do you think about the cuts in Government spending affecting housing, the health, education and social services? On 24th November at 8 00 p.m. in the Longsight Public Hall Counter Act, the group who helped out during the Community Festival last May, will be performing their "Cuts Show" which has been sponsored by various local groups and organisations. Tickets are 20p. Look out for more details.

(2) CLORIUS - NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Longsight Tenants' Association has organized a National Conference to take place in Longsight on Saturday November 6th where groups from all over the country who have been fighting against Clorius meters will attend. The aim of the conference is to set up a united campaign of action to force both local and national government to ban the use of Clorius meters and set up an enquiry into heat metering. So far groups from Nottingham, Co. Durham, Rochdale, Crewe, Runcorn, Lymm, Bristol and Manchester have agreed to attend as well as legal and technical advisors. Watch out in the next issue for a full report of the Conference.

We would meanwhile like to thank the members of the Manchester 100 Branch of the General & Municipal Workers Union who wrote a strong letter of protest recently to Clr. A. Roberts, Chairman of Housing Committee, about the continued use of Clorius meters. The letter states that we are appalled at the reports which we are receiving in connection with these. That they are inaccurate is admitted by yourself. You make the claim that they have been checked by an independent firm and that there is a drift of 7% to 12%. This you say is 'Minimal'..... Our members are working people and casual dismissal of their complaints is simply not good enough. It may have worked in the 19th Century, but today, people know that they have ways and means of making authority sit up and take notice if they are ignored.

(3) A COMMUNITY CENTRE FOR LONGSIGHT?

The Steering Committee has recently been informed that the Public Hall will soon be made available to the local groups and residents on a united basis and at a reduced rate.

We do not know yet exactly what this means in detail but it represents a step in the right direction of getting a Community Centre for Longsight.

We hope that a Public Meeting can be called soon where a constitution can be adopted and a Management Committee elected. In the meantime we will negotiate exactly what the terms of our use of the building will be and hope that these will be favourable to us.

For information contact Dave McGuire (Sec.)
30, Dobson Close. 273 2238

LAW CENTRE HOURS

Mon.	10 - 1	7 p.m. - 9.30 p.m.
Tues.	10 - 1	
Wed.	10 - 1	
Thurs.	10 - 1	7 p.m. - 9.30 p.m.
Fri.	10 - 1	

We hope the Centre will be open for a third evening each week.
You may telephone the Centre during mornings and afternoons. 225 5111.

A week to think about .....

THE ENVIRONMENT and the COMMUNITY CONFERENCE

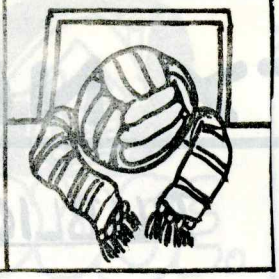
"Plays with (Northwest Spanner)
Films
Discussions
Exhibition

Mon. 22nd to Sat. 27th November.

At Abraham Moss Centre, Crescent Road, Crumpsall, Manchester.

All Week 22nd to 27th November 9 am to 9 pm — Environmental Display including books, pamphlets, posters, and work by the young people of the Abraham Moss Centre in the Leisure Library and Foyer.

ANSON FOOTBALL CLUB



The Anson Football Club is a team in the 3rd Division of Central Manchester Sunday Football League.

They have an incredible record for the first five weeks of the season - 43 GOALS

The team, who play in Green and Yellow, has twelve brothers playing for them!

The team is made up of:-

A. Minshull (Goal)	S. Mannión
R. Cullen	D. Barton
T. Cullen (Capt.)	P. Lloyd
N. Allard	J. Trew
B. McLellan	B. Vickers
I. McLellan	B. Meecham
L. King	R. Meecham

B. McLellan (Club Sec.)
C. Burns (Manager)
J. Howitt (Trainer)
B. Hurst (Treasurer)

Some of the supporters.

ANOTHER RAILWAY ATTACK FOILED.

ANSON TOPS THE BILL

The Central Manchester Sunday League staged a most entertaining match, when the local Longsight derby took place at Hough End Fields, when the Anson Football team met their rivals, - The Railway. The event took place in beautiful weather on Sunday morning the 10th of October. The spell of sunshine seemed to inspire both teams to put on a great show of football. The game, apart from minor infringments was played in a very sporting manner, under the able supervision of Referee, Mr. W. Hudson. First to score was Robert Cullen for the Anson team, in the first five minutes, followed by an equaliser by the Railway, 20 minutes later. The attack by Anson was spearheaded by Lloyd King and Norman Holland; Lloyd with speed and Norman vigour. More goals were scored bringing them to 3 all when the excitement reached fever pitch for players and spectators. Despite desperate efforts by the Railway, Anson scored the decider eight minutes before time.

Mention must be made of the custodians of both nets, who played a magnificient defence. The teams were The Anson v. The Railway

Anson have now scored 47 goals and are looking forward to their 100th according to one of their supporters.

Games Played:-

Anson	v	Lake Hotel	12-1
Wellington	v	Anson	5-7
Anson	v	Stretford	14-1
Museum	v	Anson	2-4
Anson	v	Eight Bells	6-1
Anson	v	Railway	**4-3**

All the lads are local and have financed themselves. They had to buy a strip, pay for insurance, transport, etc.

They are now through to the second round of the cup.

Dave Barton and Steve Manion are the leading goal scorers.

Dave Barton has been selected for the Inter-League.

The team are looking for somewhere to train on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Anybody who could help with premises should contact the Club Secretary or any of the lads, in the Anson Pub.

COMMUNITY NEWS.

"TALLIS ST" DECLARED NEW HOUSING ACTION AREA

Longsight's second Housing Action Area covers both sides of Elgar Street, Parkin Street, McKenzie Street, Tallis Street, Patey Street, Sherington Street, Santley Street, nos 99-157 North Road (Northmoor Road); nos 79-127 East Road, nos 160-234 Pink Bank Lane. This means owners in the area are entitled to 75% grants. Enquiries to Area Team's Office 49 East Road. This is also the new office for Slade Lane.

TENANTS BEWARE In the Slade Lane Housing Action Area many landlords have got rid of their tenants in order to sell at a high price to the council. This is illegal, you should stick it out and get a council tenancy out of it. Leaflets in English and Urdu with more details available at 113 Hamilton Rd.

SLADE LANE REDEVELOPMENT

Latest news is that 2 nurseries will be built off Palm Street in 1977/8 "Subject to finance being available". In other words they are not definitely going to be built.

There will be new housing built in 1977, and there are plans for a play area or sitting out area adjacent to 16 Duncan Road, and for the gardens of 19-41 Clitheroe Road extending onto the old croft. These plans have not been approved yet.

PUBLIC HALL

The fight for a Community Centre goes on.

Following the success of the Community Festival the Steering Committee submitted a report to various Council Committees urging them to recommend that the Public Hall should be run as a community centre by a local management committee.

On September 10th the Recreational Services Committee, who own the building, decided to hold a smaller meeting with councillors from the Education Committee where all the aspects of the Public Hall's proposed use could be discussed.

The Steering Committee intends to lobby this meeting to ensure that its views are not ignored. We always need more help and ideas from new people. So if you or your group is interested in joining our campaign please contact me.

Dave Maguire (Secretary)
Longsight Public Hall Steering Committee,
30, Dobson Close,
Longsight,
Manchester, 13. Tel: 273 3003

Apologies for leaving off the address of the Public Hall Committee from their letter on Page 10 last time. (The address appeared mistakenly on page 8 under "Gardening Club").

DISTRICT CENTRE.

What are the planners up to?

The original plans for a massive shopping centre built by private developers, at terms very unfavourable to rate-payers, were shelved by the council, partly because of the strength of opposition from various parts of Longsight. The opposition claimed thatwe needed a variety of shops all over Longsight, so that nobody had too far to walk to get their shopping, and that a district centre should be fairly small and go hand-in-hand with the building of corner shops or small rows of shops, particularly on the new estate.

Greater Manchester Council also opposed the Longsight District Centre plans because they were much too big and would have a bad affect on commerce in Levenshulme, Gorton, etc.

The Traffic Action Group opposed the plan because it would have made already intolerable traffic conditions on Stockport Road, even worse.

At a public meeting of over 200 people, only one (apart from Town Hall people of course) spoke up in favour of a big centre.

So what is happening now?

The planners are considering 3 different sets of plans from 3 different developers. The promised survey of residents views has not been carried out, there has been no public discussion. The questions given in at the public meeting have still not been answered.
Asked whether public discussion has been ruled out again the Planning Department said "No Comment".

"The 2 shops for the new estate are going ahead. Apart from that there is no news"

CONTD

4

THE PLAYHOUSE.

Although the Playhouse did not open much over the summer several activities have successfully taken place.
On Sunday 22nd August a double decker Bus was hired from SELNEC to take people from Longsight to Blackpool. It was a fine day and a good time was had by all. This was to have originally marked the start of a summer playscheme but due to lack of help it never got off the ground.

STREET PARTY...

However the following Sunday all the arrangements for a street party were completed and at about two o'clock people started hanging banners from the lamp posts on Clitheroe Road. Sandwiches jelly and cakes had been made by friends, tables were brought out of the houses, and people started gathering.

POLICE CALLED IN...

At about three o'clock the police turned up due to complaints received about the barricades across the ends of the street, and after a frustrating time the tables had to be moved to the side of the street to allow the cars to pass through the groups of children playing in the street. Bob managed to bring a disco along but people felt inhibited about dancing in the street, so later the disco equipment was moved into the playhouse, where most people had a good time. Many thanks to Bob.

CLOWN AND CIRCUS...

Next day a van load of clowns turned up and said they were going to help us make a circus. So we followed their procession through the streets until we arrived at Crowcroft Park, the rest of the morning was then spent dreaming up circuses.

ACCROBATS, STRONGMEN...

After a break for lunch we came back and found piles of brightly coloured coloured clothes so people started dressing up. Faces were painted and a large round plastic sheet turned into a circus ring. Groups of children started to form acts.....there were clowns, accrobats, strongmen, animals, clowns and more clowns. The ring keeper introduced the acts, as music whirled out of an old organ oops sorry tape recorder!

BANDWAGON...

The mysterious clowns were in fact Bandwagon, a group of people that have been travelling around the Manchester area during the summer holidays visiting playgrounds and playschems. There were a nice number of parents and older people present and everybody had a great time.

COLD CAMP...

The following Tuesday a small group of local residents old and young set off to Hartington the other side of Buxton to go camping for a few days in the country. Sadly to say the weather was rather cold so we came home after two days.

P.S.

The playhouse is still here, and I personally feel it would be nice if local residents young and old could feel some sort of involvement because its possible to get to know people and to have a good time, and serve a need in the community.

HOUSING ACTION AREA
SLADE LANE/SLADE GROVE.

Is there anybody else in this area who finds the improvements too expensive?

I want to ask the Town Hall for a higher grant or lower standards required. If anybody wishes to join me in this please contact:

Mrs. W. Horner
9 Slade Lane
Longsight

SHORTSIGHT NEWS...

ROYALTY VISITS LONGSIGHT

LONGSIGHT HAD A FLEETING VISIT FROM ROYALTY ON THURSDAY 28th SEPTEMBER!!
PRINCESS MARGARET AND A BIGGER THAN USUAL ESCORT PASSED DOWN SLADE LANE, PRESUMABLY FROM KINGSWAY AND MANCHESTER AIRPORT.

H.R.H. PLUS ESCORT REACHED STOCKPORT RD AT 5.15. NOT MANY PEOPLE WERE ABOUT SO SHE HAD NOBODY TO WAVE TO. THERE WAS NOT MUCH PUBLICITY DUE TO SECURITY RISK (ALTHOUGH SHE DID PASS A ROYAL GLANCE AT YOUR INTREPID ON THE SPOT REPORTER. I CAME OVER ALL HOT AND COLD!)
BEING ROYALTY YOU HAVE NO TROUBLE WITH TRAFFIC JAMS OR TRAFFIC LIGHTS, AS THERE WERE 2 POLICE-PEOPLE AT EVERY SET OF LIGHTS. PRINCESS MARGARET (OF SNOWDON FAME) HAD ARRIVED IN MANCHESTER TO OPEN AN EXHIBITION IN BELLE VUE.

M.M.

LONGSIGHT ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

PLYMOUTH GROVE WEST.

This is a brief report of our activities during the summer. Thanks to a grant from the Urban Aid Grant system we have been able to undertake a greater number of trips etc, this summer.

TRIPS AND TRIPS...

Over the holiday period we have made three daytrips to Rhyl in North Wales and two to the Lake District. These have been exclusively for kids, accompanied by two playleaders in the playgrounds mini-van, at a nominal charge of 10p to each child. In addition, at the beginning of the holidays, a parent/kids trip was made by approximately 65 people in a hired bus. This went to Southport and seemed to be enjoyed by everyone. At the end of August we went on a weeks camp to Sun Hill Farm near Marple. A group of 14 girls and three workers went for the first three and a half days, followed by 20 boys. We hope finances permitting, to make this an annual event. This year we charged £1-50 per head and, using the camp as a base. went on daytrips to places in the surrounding area.

PARADE...

Apart from these trips there were several other activities..... many trips were made to the local swimming baths, temporary relief from the heat. Visits to fun fairs were inevitably popular and a do-it-yourself circus troupe called Bandwagon visited us. A morning 'announcement' parade resulted in over 100 kids marching around the estate near the playground (in Plymouth Grove West)! As a to the summer an under 14's disco was organised on September 11th at Longsight Public Hall; this event however wasn't very successful due to lack of numbers.

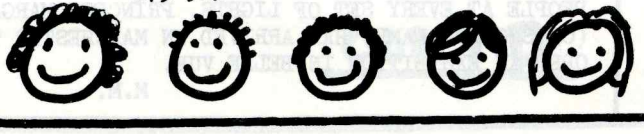
PROPOSED EVENTS...

Proposed events in the next few months are as follows:

November 5th....Bonfire Night at the Playground
November 13th...Parents Social
November 20th...Kids disco
December 19th...Christmas party.

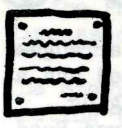
We intend to run various trips, etc, in the winter holidays and will confirm the above events as they approach.

Contact Iris Chappell, 6 Winterford Avenue 273-3096



SLADE LANE NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE.

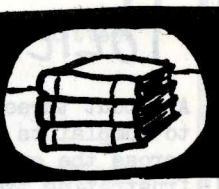
Manchester Housing Committee has agreed to spend over £6,000 to do up Bridge House, 642 Stockport Rd, for use as a Neighbourhood Centre. While awaiting final approval form the Council, the house is being caretaken by people chosen by the Housing Dept.



NOTICES...

Watch out for notices of a public meeting to be held shortly by the Housing Dept, where residents of the area around Slade Lane can discuss a constitiution, think about what uses they would like the Neighbourhood Centre put to, and elect a committee.

LONGSIGHT LIBRARY.



NEW FEATURE FOR LIBRARY

Within the next month we shall be introducing a new feature to the reference services at Longsight, Levenshulme and Gorton Libraries. We hope to keep an up to date collection of all the leaflets which are available on specific topics. We shall be starting the collection with the following subjects:

Housing
Employment and unemployment
National Insurance
Social Security Benefits and Welfare Rights
Consumers
Legal
Health
The Elderly
Planning
Children

NEW BOOKLIST!

A new booklist is now available at Longsight Library free of charge. Entitled "Children", it lists books we have in the library which will be of interest to parents and members of the general public rather than to teachers and professional social workers. The topics it covers include: care of babies and young children, development of children, activities for children, making children's clothes and toys.

We hope to produce more booklists in the future. If you have any ideas for useful subjects please leave a message at Longsight Library..

6

WOMENS RIGHTS.

A Womens' Rights Course will be starting on Wednesday, October 20th at 8.00 p.m. at the Longsight Methodist Hall, which is on Stockport Road, opposite the Police Station. The Course is free and there will be facilities for kids, but its best if you let us know before hand if kids are coming. The purpose of the Course is for women to share practical information and experiences on Womens' Rights in the Manchester area. Topics to be discussed will be:

Oct. 20 Finding a House and Paying for it.

Nov. 3 Separation and Divorce

Nov. 17 Your House and Rights on Marriage Breakdown.

Dec. 1 Social Security

Dec. 15 Battered Wives Refuges

We hope to continue after Christmas with topics like equal opportunities, kids, Sex Discrimination Act, Abortion, etc. The discussions will be run on an informal basis, and we hope as many women as possible will come and join in. If members of your group cannot come, perhaps you would like us to come and visit you. For further information please contact:-

Wendy at Manchester Law Centre,
595 Stockport Road. Tel: 225 5111.
or
Maggie at Hamilton Road Neighbourhood Centre,
113 Hamilton Road. Tel: 248 6640.

Hope to see you there!

THE LONGSIGHT FAMILY CENTRE

Stockport Road once had two churches, situated opposite the large police headquarters (formally an industrial school). Both are now demolished, but the Methodist Chapel still remains. The site of the Methodist Church is marked by a white wooden cross.

The Chapel is now the home of the Longsight Family Centre, a branch of the National Children's Home, ably run by the Chief Superintendant, Miss R. Bracegirdle, and devoted helpers.

Stimulating environment..

The objects of the Longsight Centre is to provide s stimulating environment for children throughout the whole year. Confidential advice is given to families under stress. Emphasis is placed on keeping together the family unit, also special attention is given to children referred to the Centre by the Social Services.

The National Children's Home has many branches throughout the country where children can be taken into care and given a home.

All ages...

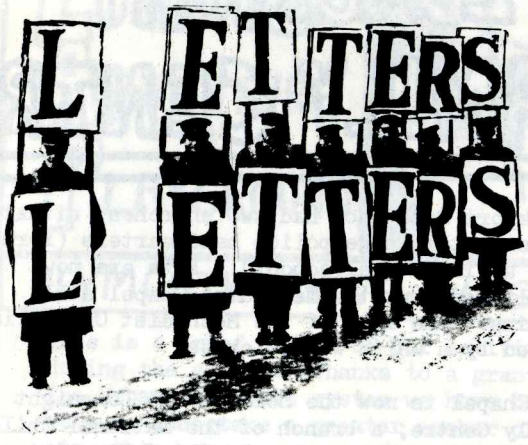
It must be pointed out that the centre caters for people of all ages, beside caring for children, and is always ready to help in any way.

The Centre is open from 7.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m. Mondays to Fridays (except Bank Holidays) 52 weeks in the year.

T.P.

A RIGHT DOUBLE CROSS

ON TUES THE 31ST AUG A PETITION WAS PRESENTED TO THE LORD MAYOR DEMANDING THE WITHDRAWEL OF CLORIUS METERS, IN ATTENDANCE WERE THE LOCAL COUNCILLORS, THE M.P. FOR ARDWICK MR GERALD KAUFMAN ALSO MEMBERS OF THE LONGSIGHT TENANTS ASSOCIATION. AS A RESULT OF THIS PETITION IT WAS AGREED THAT A MEETING SHOULD TAKE PLACE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THIS WAS TO BE A MEETING BETWEEN COUNCIL EXPERTS, LOCAL COUNCILLORS ALSO MEMBERS OF THE L.T.A. WHAT IN FACT DID HAPPEN WAS THAT A MEETING WAS ARRANGED FOR TUES THE 14TH OF SEPT IN THE TOWN HALL. PRESENT WERE THE CHAIRPERSON ALAN ROBERTS, ALSO THE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING GRAHAM GOODHEAD. WHERE WERE THE EXPERTS? HOWEVER THE MAIN CONCESSIONS GRANTED WERE THAT NO DEMANDS FOR PAYMENT OF SURCHARGES WOULD BE MADE UNTIL AFTER THE NEXT HOUSING MEETING, ALSO A REPORT WOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE NEXT HOUSING COMMITTEE.



POLICE FAILURE TO TRACE MISSING PERSON...

Dear Longsight News,

The following is a copy of the letter I wrote to the police:

"I wish to make a complaint about the lack of co-ordination at Longsight Police Station.

On Friday night July 16th a man died. He had no identification with him.

On Monday night 19th at about 11 p.m. I rang Longsight station to report that my friend Jack Wolstenholme of 19 Hadley Avenue was missing. He had obviously not been in his flat since early Saturday as the post was still on the step and his flat, to which I have a key, did not look as if he had packed anything up to go off anywhere. None of his friends had seen him since Friday, which was very unusual, if he had gone away he would have told us as as he knew that we would worry.

The officer who called at my house said he could do nothing and took no notes or description. He said that I could 'phone hospitals to see if Jack had been admitted. Surely the police could have a procedure for checking hospital admissions, it would be easier for them. As it turns out, the officer had not even checked any police reports of accidents, deaths and arrests in their own Longsight area. I would expect in such a case that they would immediately check these records for the whole of Manchester in order to set the friend or relatives mind at rest.

In fact other officers at Longsight had been trying to identify a body, Jack's, since the previous Friday night.

My complaint is not against the individual officers concerned but against the procedural inefficiency that meant that no connection was made between my report and the on-going investigation. Precautions could be taken so that a similar lack of co-ordination does not happen again."

CONT'D...

CONT'D...

An officer from the Longsight Police Station called at my house and asked if I wanted to continue with my complaint. He claimed this was a special case and that if I had said "I want to make a missing person's report" instead of just telling my story more would have been done for me by the Police.

I didn't want anybody to get into trouble so I withdrew the complaint but I think everybody should know that to get the police to take action to help you, you need to know the right words. I still think that they should have checked all police and accident records in Manchester when I told them Jack Wolstenholme was missing.

M. Walker.

PRAISE FOR THE NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE...

Dear Longsight News,

I am a senior citizen and an associate of Longsight Neighbourhood Centre on Hamilton Road. This building is about to be demolished and the group's application for another building has received sympathetic attention from Manchester Housing Committee. A petition to this end is in circulation with 279 signatures.

I find that these people are extremely kind and willing and able to help lots of people who often will not approach officials.

These premises are used by several organisations interested in improving the life of the community e.g. playgroups for children, excursions for children, advice centre, furniture and clothing for the needy.

Also an office of Birch Housing Cooperative. This is an endeavour to provide rented houses managed by a tenants group. This is likely to become operational next year and will be available to people not entitled to be rehoused under ordinary circumstances and young coubles and people dissatisfied with their present housing.

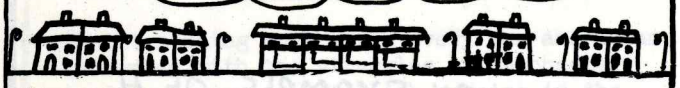
The people at the Centre invite the support of the local people and welcome visitors.

Yours sincerely,

W. H.

8

A DAY ON THE COUNCIL ESTATE



Seven o'clock doors open dogs run out.
Newsboys (and girls) swap newspapers into letter boxes and about to companions across the way.
Just gone eight the first scholars make their way
And at nine the late risers scurry to escape teacher's wrath.

Shopkeepers allow fresh air to freshen their stocks
While the first customers dither around the "serve yourself shelves".

Later questing after fortune the bookie is thronged with mathematicians, juggling with straight bets and complications
Hoping Dame Fortunie will smile,
But she more often laughs!

Ten minutes before opening time, gather the thirsty ones
Impatient, nervously examining their watches and the door
Opening, adjust their ties and smooth their hair
Before seeking their libations of ale

Meanwhile ther laundrette with its machines
Open mouthed gorging themselves on panties and bras'
Shirts and sheets, while housewives gossip.
(Many close secrets are unveiled here)
Both domestic and intimate.

Midday the chippie doles out its containered food to school children and adults. Hungry outdoor diners gobble their choice, and leave the container on their only table, the pavement.
Where foraging pigeons and sparrows, as did Lazarus, enjoy the remains.

Four o'clock and the school warden like a broody hen
Gathers her flock and takes them across the street dangerous as a minefield.

Defying the stinking monsters who would claim their victims, while paying homage to their god - "Speed".

Evening, and eye shade is applied, nails varnished, and hopes rise. Will he be there? Evidently he was. For as midnight strikes they stroll hand in hand down the avenue.

Pavline

LONGSIGHT NEWS NEEDS YOU!!

LONGSIGHT NEWS IS A COMMUNITY PAPER. IT IS DONE BY PEOPLE LIVING IN LONGSIGHT, FOR PEOPLE IN LONGSIGHT.

WE NEED PEOPLE TO CONTRIBUTE NEWS ITEMS, POEMS, RECIPES, LETTERS, JOKES, ADVICE, HELPFUL HINTS, ADS, CROSSWORD PUZZLES, ETC. ETC.

WE ARE OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS.

WE ALSO NEED YOUR HELP IN MAKING LONGSIGHT NEWS. THINGS LIKE A COUPLE OF HOURS TYPING, LAYING OUT, COLLATING (FOLDING PAGES ETC.) DISTRIBUTION AND SELLING DOOR TO DOOR.

TAKE PART IN YOUR PAPER.

CONTACT:- 113 HAMILTON ROAD, LONGSIGHT.

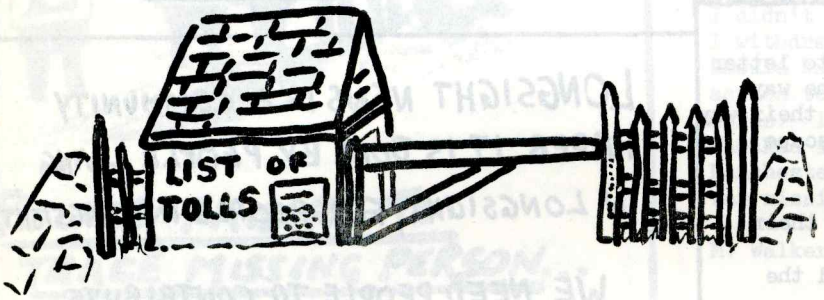
(P.S. WE MAY BE MOVING SOON!)

LONGSIGHT DIRECTORY 15p

Very useful little book, published by Manchester Council for Voluntary Service and Manchester Cultural Services.
Lists all the welfare facilities, advice centres, youth clubs, nurseries, O.A.P. clubs, schools, community groups, doctors, Asian and West Indian Groups, churches. Giving pnone numbers for gas escapes, health hazards etc.
If you want to know about all the facilities and groups in the area, or if you are the sort of person who people always stop in the street and ask where they should go about XYZ, then you should definetely have one of these.
Obtainable from 113 Hamilton Road and The Law Centre, 595 Stockport Road.

Local History

VICTORIA PARK (RUSHOLME)



AN EXAMPLE OF A TOLL USED IN VICTORIA PARK. (ABOUT 1845)

BEGGINING...

On July 31st 1837 a group of wealthy purse—proud business men formed one of the first co-operative ventures in town planning. This was in the reign of William the fourth, when a coach setting out from Manchester at midday reached London the capital at noon the following day.

£100/SHARE FOR PRIVACY...

The money for the new estate was raised by a complicated system called tontine which fell into financial difficulties. The estate named after Princess Victoria was reconstituted as The Victoria Park Trust in 1845. Capital was raised by 5,000 shares at £100 each. Gates were erected tc preserve the privacy of rich patrons from lesser mortals. Tolls were imposed on none residential or unauthorised traffic, and collected by uniformed toll keepers. Maintainence of the roads and gates was by levies and subscriptions by tenants.

As an example of the Parks aristocratic atmosphere a veteran of the Peninsular War, Sir Harry Smith rode in the Park on his charger, with his breast covered in medals. A notable resident was Richard Cobden of Corn Laws fame. Also lived there Mr. John Jennison the founder of Belle Vue. William Royle in his History of Rusholme described how carriages and pairs swept along well kept drives to the owners palatial mansions. A number of these houses still exist with their large gardens which at the time of their construction were accompanied by large squares.

CONT.D

CONT.D

As bright young men now speed along in sports cars so did the young bloods in those times who raced along in traps pulled by thoroughbreds.

An incident in the history of the Park and its attitude to encroachment on its privacy was an action brought by the Trust against a motorist for driving a motor car in the Park, in 1914.

NO CARS OR TRAMS..

A copy of a judgment in the archives department of the Central Library states that Ralph Austin Burdett was ordered to pay £15.15.0 old money and costs for driving the car, and damage to the roads.

Manchester Extension Act in 1885 incorporated the Park, and sewage and gas was laid on, but preserved the privacy of the Park, agreeing to that the Act did not establish a right of way. Trams were excluded until 1920.

Centenary Celebration..

A centenary celebration was held in the Blackstock Hotel in 1938, and a copy of the invitation card can be seen at the Central Library. Efforts were made to sell a centenary brochure, but the response was poor. The Park's old "glory" has now departed, as have its elegant occupiers and their efforts to establish exclusiveness.

Their decendants have moved to other areas such as Alderley Edge, and adjoining Cheshire parts; where can be seen similarly built houses and gardens, far removed from the city which created and still creates much of the source of their wealth.

T. P.

HISTORY

A Book Review

A History of the Manchester and Salford Trades Council

An interesting book which every man and woman concerned with the struggles of Manchester trade unionism to establish a voice in the management of the city, and to promote better conditions for its workers, has recently been written by two Manchester citizens, Edmund and Ruth Frow, and published by E. J Morton, Warburton Street, Didsbury.

On opening page is a poem by Ernest Page, The Song of the Future.

"The coming hope, the future day, When wrong to right shall bow,
And but a little courage, man!
To make that future NOW."

In a foreword by the present Manchester Trades Council M/s. Frances Dean she points out the difficulties the others had to compile the book, due to many records being lost in the Manchester Blitz, when the office of the Trades Council was destroyed. Reliance had to be placed on press reports which in the main only gave spectacular reports, such as demonstrations and meetings. The routine work pursued over the century covered by the book was destroyed.

Manchester, and its surrounding districts was becoming a highly industralised area, from the beginning of the 19th century, and the various trades gave rise to many trade unions or combinations. These formed a loose federation called the United Trades. This was followed at various times by attempts to unify the struggles of workers but these did not achieve the unity envisaged by Ernest Jones the Chartist. Following the Chartist movement greater unity continued. At a demonstration held in 1866 at Knott Mill 20,000 people, inspite of pouring rain listened to speakers. Among the banners carried, were the Hulme and Chorlton Carpenters, the Bakers' Society; The Ancoats Glass Blowers, and Operative Stonemasons.

This gave rise to an inaugural meeting of the Manchester and Salford Trades Council on the 9th of October 1866. This meeting was adjourned until the 9th of November, when S. C. Wood was elected as the first President, and W.H. Wood the secretary.

John Pike the landlord of the Three Crowns was elected Treasurer. He allowed the Council to use a large room in his pub. The council was formed of all shades of political opinion, and when the Council took a decision to avoid identification with any political movement, the Radicals formed the Trade Unionists' Political Association to press for the extension of the franchise.

CONT -

History cont'd.

Although agitation compelled the Government to extend the vote to the lower middle class, and higher paid workers, when the Election was held in 1868 on the new electoral role, no working class candidate was elected.

As an example of the oppressive legislation, in 1871 seven women were sent to gaol for saying "Bah" to a blackleg. (Incidentally, picketing is still a chancy business, with the police eager to interfere on the slightest pretext.)

The Trades Council was responsible for the circular dated February 21st 1868 which called together the national conference of trades unions which became the Trades Union Congress.

A feature of the early days of the Trades Council was the recognition only of skilled workers of whom there were 108 delegates from such trades in 1891, and it was decided to admit unskilled workers' unions, and to quote the book, a wind of change penetrated the Council's deliberations.

The May Day march in 1893 which was organised by the Independant Labour Party, (the Trades Council having failed to support it,) was supported by 20,000 persons of no repute, as so described by Robert Blatchford, Editor of the Clarion, writing on Labour Day. He asked what justification there was for the presence of half drilled constables on horse-back armed with pistols and swords. He went on to question under what circumstances these weapons were to be used. This theme of policing workers demonstrations is prominent throughout years of workers struggles.

Modern women activists may be surprised that a Manchester and Salford Women's Trades Council existed in 1895, devoted to the hard lot of women workers, coupled later to the fight for the right for women to have the vote. The women's council existed until its merger with the Trades Council in 1918. A recurring theme in the Manchester and Salford working class life was mention of The Ancoats Brotherhood where workers could avail themselves of further education in art, poetry and literature. These classes were supported by workmen who had often worked hard and long hours during the day.

And so the book portrays the activities of thousands of Manchester men and women to improve their standard of life of themselves and their families, and at the same time taking an interest in their city, and oppressed peoples throughout the world.

I recommend this book to all students of trade unions and also to all Manchester men and women; for this book speaks of Manchester history.

T.P.

ADS : WHAT'S ON : FOR SALE

VACANCIES:-

LAW CENTRE

The Law Centre will be making three new appointments in the next few weeks. They will be for a lawyer, a Community/research worker and a General Worker. The lawyer will have to be qualified and the community/research worker should have some knowledge of working with groups. We hope that all three jobs will be filled by people who can type, and who will be prepared to take an equal share in the responsibilities of the centre. If you are interested in any of these jobs, please write in with details or come in and see us at the Law Centre, 595 Stockport Road, Manchester 12.

PLAYHOUSE

Friendly and active people wanted to help at the Play-House 50p an hour. To find out more call round to 117 Hamilton Road 4-6 p.m. Tuesdays or Thursdays

ADVERTS ARE FREE!!!

ADVERTISING IN LONGSIGHT NEWS IS FREE. PLEASE SEND YOURS ADVERTS IN SOON FOR THE NEXT ISSUE.

KENDALLS

for

NEWSAGENTS, SWEETS AND TOBACCO.

393, Dickenson Road, Longsight.

Longsight One Parent Group
For information about the groups activities contact:
Margaret Fraser (Secretary)
1 Royds Close, Longsight, M12
Tel c/o Teresa, 8 Pembroke Close, 273 5831

Longsight Community Forum,
An open Forum to exchange views and information on local issues e.g. District Centre, Traffic &c.
Next meeting 8p.m. 25th Oct. at St. Joseph's School, Laindon Road, Sec Norman Dawson
Tel. 224 2744.

PLANTS FOR SALE

Excellent value - prices start as low as 10p. Yellow - flowered - wilt resistant clematis only 50p.
7, Birch Grove.

Profits to Birch Community Association.

Longsight Community Gardening Club. Sec Mary Oliver
19 Markfield Avenue, Longsight

BIRCH PLAYGROUP

Open

Every morning 9 a.m. - 12-15 p.m.
at
The Parish Rooms (Birch Centre).
Danes Road, Off Brighton Grove,
near to Birchfields Park.

You are welcome to come and visit us any time, Mrs. Joyce Osuji will be glad to give you any more details and is the leader of the Playgroup. Children can attend from the age of 2½ - 3 years until they are five Application forms to reserve your child a place can be obtained at h the COFFEE MORNINGS held every Thursday at 11 a.m. Come and Visit us with your toddlers and let them JOIN in the FUN and GAMES. There are still some vacancies for this term, so enrol your toddler now.

Fees: Weekly rate for 5 mornings £1.50
Separate mornings 40p. per session.

"THAT GROUP"

Autumn/Winter Programme 1976.

Meetings are held on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month from 8 p.m. at 7, Norman Road, Rusholme, Manchester, 13.

5th October	Discussion on Secondary Education.
19th October	Talk by a Physiotherapist on the training of brain-damaged children.
2nd November	Discussion with mums of handicapped children.
16th November	Make-up demonstration.
7th December	Talk on Cancer Education.
14th December	Christmas Party.

Do come along and join us, a Ladies Group for women of all ages.

DO YOU BELONG TO BIRCH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION ?

If you live in Birch - or even if you don't - there's something for you at Birch Community Centre: theatre trips, musical evenings, snooker, community work, scouts and guides, children's playgroup .... and this is only the beginning. If you join now you can make sure that we provide what YOU want. Rooms available for hire !!

For more information and for membership, please contact the secretary:
Mrs. Grundy Tel: 225 9099 between 4-6 p.m. week days.

BIRCH PLAYGROUP at Birch Community Centre, Danes Road, are holding a Handycrafts Competition for all ages 3 - O.A.Ps. Application forms available from
Mrs. J. Coombes
19, Birch Grove,
Birch-in-Rusholme.

Make enquiries soon as Exhibition of entries is on October 19th from 6 p.m. - Do please enter and help make it a success.